

# Data Points

Issue 37

December 22, 2003

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## Separators for HIPAA Submissions

This is a reminder that each Region can choose the characters used for the Element Separator, the Component Element Separator, and the Segment/Record Terminator in their HIPAA-format submissions. In the ISA record, the character you put in position 4 will become the Element Separator, the character in position 105 will become the Component Element Separator, and the character in position 106 will become the Segment/Record Terminator. You can use any character in those positions; however, that character cannot be used anywhere else in the entire transmission. We recommend the asterisk (\*), the colon (:), and the tilde (~), but any characters may be used as long as they are not present elsewhere in the file. If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Moore ([Dennis.Moore@rdmc.org](mailto:Dennis.Moore@rdmc.org)).

## Data Upload System Renamed

The link on the Department web site formerly known as the "Data Upload System" has been renamed "Region Reports and Upload." This new name better reflects the purpose of the system and the information available once you've logged on. Also, after logging onto the system, the user-specific site now opens in the same browser window instead of a new window. If you have any problems or concerns about this system, please e-mail Brian Mayo ([Brian.Mayo@rdmc.org](mailto:Brian.Mayo@rdmc.org)).

## Holiday Hours

No one will be in the RDMC office on the following dates:

December 25 (Christmas)  
December 26  
January 1 (New Year's Day)

Someone will be available to answer questions and process data submission files every other weekday of the holiday season.

**We at RDMC would like to wish you and your families a happy and safe holiday season!**